COVID-19 Message November 19, 2020

Good evening. This is First Selectman Jayme Stevenson with an important COVID-19 update for Thursday, November 19th. 67 new cases have been reported in Darien over the past 14 days. Not since late March have we experienced such aggressive virus spread. Our 14-day rolling case average is 26 cases per 100,000 which moved us to Red Alert status.

Red Alert status requires that those folks who are 65 or older, or at high risk, should stay home to stay safe. Everyone should limit trips outside the house and avoid any gatherings with non-family members. Indoor group activities must be postponed. Mask wearing is mandatory when in public. Governor Lamont announced this afternoon that, effective 11/23, all club and team sports must pause all activities until 1/19/2021. The Town of Darien will be in consultation with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health to discuss additional mitigation measures.

This news comes at a particularly difficult time with the Thanksgiving holiday approaching. Under the Governor's Phase 2.1 guidance, indoor and outdoor gatherings are limited to 10 people and mask wearing and distancing are recommended. Travel is strongly discouraged and all travelers into CT must follow State Health quarantine and/or testing guidelines. More information is available at www.ct.gov/coronavirus. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued holiday guidelines which can be accessed at www.cdc.gov. The best way to stay healthy this holiday season is to celebrate virtually with family and friends.

Please remember, if you or a family member is required to quarantine, you must stay home for the duration of your quarantine. There is no option to test out of a quarantine. An individual in quarantine may not participate in any community-based activities.

Testing services are critical at this time. www.211ct.org has a complete list of testing providers. Everpoint Health began offering drive thru testing in Darien this week. Testing is available 6 days per week. Visit www.everpointhealth.com to learn more about their services and to book an appointment. Everpoint Health is an out-of-network provider and payment is due at the time of registration. You will be provided a receipt for insurance purposes, but reimbursement is a matter between you and your insurance provider.

Stopping the virus spread is up to each and every one of us. We can do this together!

Please visit the Town of Darien (<u>www.darienct.gov</u>) and State of Connecticut (<u>www.ct.gov/coronavirus</u>) websites for more COVID-19 information including updated Sector Rules and the COVID-19 Alert Framework.

Thank you, Jayme Stevenson